

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 02496 310646Z
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 AID-05 COME-00
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /032 W
-----019011 311900Z /64
R 310510Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 488

UNCLAS COLOMBO 2496

FOR OPIC ACTING PRESIDENT R.M. POATS FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, EAGR, EAID, CE
SUBJ: OPIC-CCC JOINT PROGRAM TO STIMULATE CREATION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS WHICH WILL PURCHASE U.S. AGRICULTURAL
COMMODITIES

REF: (A) STATE A-1775, (B) POATS-WRIGGINS LETTER, 5/19/78

1. AS AMBASSADOR WRIGGINS IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY, I AM REPLYING
TO YOUR LETTER OF MAY 19 REGARDING OPIC-USDA EFFORT TO STIMULATE
OVERSEAS JOINT BUSINESS VENTURES WHICH WILL PURCHASE U.S.
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.
2. SINCE THE UNITED NATIONAL PARTY (UNP) GOVERNMENT WAS
ELECTED LAST JULY, THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN SRI LANKA HAS
IMPROVED. THE NEW GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED A FREE TRADE ZONE
AND IS ANXIOUS TO ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN MANY FIELDS,
INCLUDING AGRIBUSINESS.
3. AS YOU KNOW, RICHARD CRISLER WAS HERE IN THE LATTER PART
OF MARCH AND DID A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF INVESTMENT PROSPECTS.
THERE ARE A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES FOR U.S.-SRI LANKAN JOINT
VENTURES IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING.
4. THE EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW-UP ON MR. CRISLER'S FINDINGS AND
WILL KEEP WASHINGTON INFORMED OF OTHER POTENTIAL INVESTMENT
PROSPECTS WITH MESSAGES SLUGGED FOR OPIC.

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5. WITH BEST WISHES.
LEVIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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